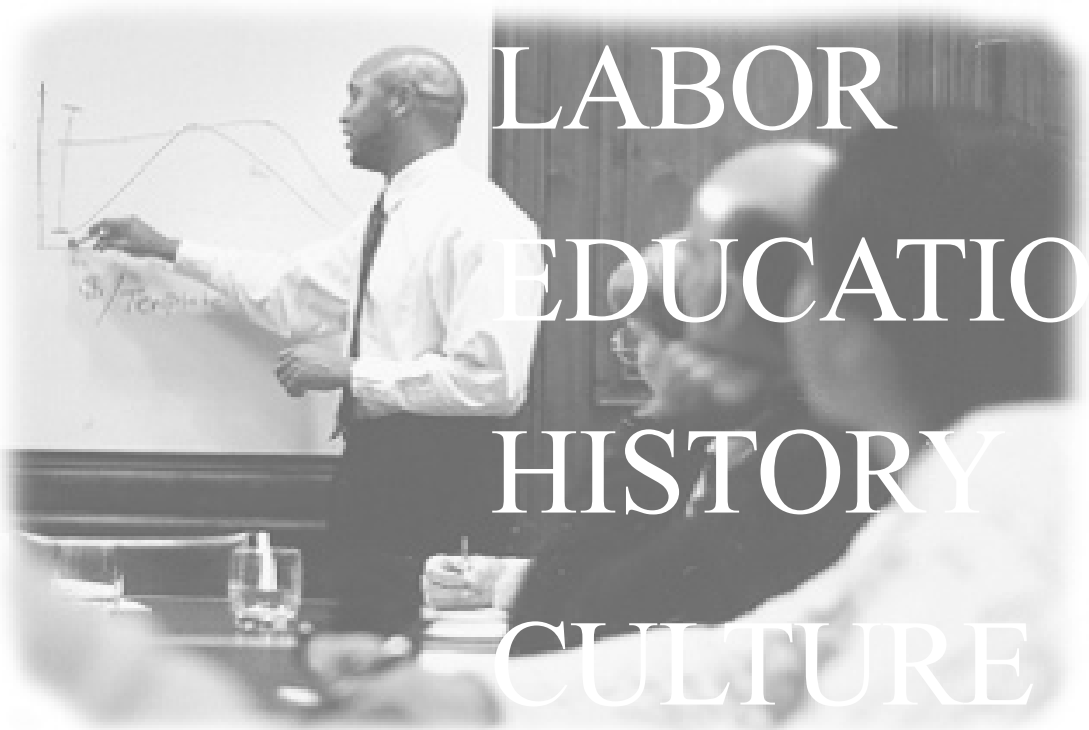


ST. BERNARD



PARISH

“...the health of a community is a shared responsibility of many entities, organizations and interests in the community, including health services delivery organizations, public health agencies, other public and private entities and the people of a community.”

– Institute of Medicine. 1996. *Healthy Communities: New Partnerships for the Future of Public Health*. National Academy Press. p. 12



St. Bernard Parish

**St. Bernard Parish
Tourist Commission**
204 Cougar Rd.
Arabi, LA 70032
504-278-4200

**Regional Office of
Public Health**
Jerrell Mathison, M.D.
Metropolitan Regional
Office
1001 Howard Ave., Ste.
100A
New Orleans, LA 70113
504-599-0100
504-599-0200 fax

History¹

Created on March 31, 1807, St. Bernard was once called “Terre aux Boeufs” because it was the last refuge of the country’s wild oxen. The first settlers established plantations in St. Bernard in 1720. Under the Spanish rule, Canary islanders, called “Islenos,” were among the first to arrive. It was the first parish to grow indigo and sugarcane. For 150 years before the Civil War, palatial plantation homes were build by wealthy citizens of new Orleans, among them Galvez, the conqueror of the British at Baton Rouge and Pensacola. Gen. Andrew Jackson defeated the British under General Pakenham at the Battle of New Orleans on January 8, 1815, 15 days after the conclusion of the peace treaty between Britain and the United States. This battle was fought on the “plains of Chalmette,” now a historic shrine.

Culture and Recreation³

Historic St. Bernard is just four miles from downtown New Orleans. Just follow Rampart Street until it becomes Highway 46 in Chalmette near the National Battlefield. It was here in 1815 that the Battle of New Orleans was fought between General Jackson’s ragtag American Army and the elite British invaders under General Pakenham. Just a short distance down Highway 46 are the ruins of the DeLaRonde Plantation, confiscated by the British and used as a hospital during the Battle of New Orleans. Also on Highway 46 are the Ducros Museum and Library and the Islenos Museum next door that depicts the history of the Islenosor Spanish Island people of St. Bernard. You can also visit the 1787 St. Bernard Cemetery.

Parish Seat¹ Chalmette¹

Major Cities (over 5,000 population)²

Chlamette CDP*

1990 31,860

1997 (estimate) N/A

Mereaux CDP*

1990 8,849

1997 (estimate) N/A

Arabi CDP*

1990 8,787

1997 N/A

Violet CDP*

1990 8,574

1997 N/A



**Census Designated Place*

Parish Population²

1990	66,631
1997 (estimate)	66,927

Breakdown of 1996 population (estimates)⁶

White	93%
African American	5%
Other	2%
Male	48%
Female	52%
Population age 0-4	7%
Populations age 65 & over	12%

Geography and Statistics²

Average elevation	5 ft.
Land area in square miles	465.2
Water area in square miles ⁴	132.7

Climate²

Average temperatures

Annual	69°
January	54°
July	83°
Annual average rainfall	59.8 in.

Labor Force (1995)¹

Civilian	31,500
Employed	29,100
Unemployed	2,400
Unemployment	7.5%

Agriculture¹

Farming, commercial fishing and trapping.

Colleges/Universities² (within one hour New Orleans

Delgado Community College; Dillard University; LSU Medical Center; Loyola University; New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; Notre Dame School of Theology; Our Lady of Holy Cross

Educational Attainment (1990)⁷

Less than 5th grade	2.3%
High school graduate or higher	67.2%
Some college or higher	28.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher	7.3%

Major Employers (Products) and Number of Employees²

Private Employers

Mobil Oil Corporation (Petroleum Products)	665
Chalmette Medical Centers (Medical)	630
Amstar Sugar Corporation (Sugar Cane Refining)	500

Public Employers

St. Bernard Parish School Board (Education)	1,078*
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**Full- and part-time employees*

Poverty and Income

Persons in poverty (1995) ⁷	14.7%
Children under age 18 in poverty ⁷	21.8%
Per capita income (1996) ⁸	\$18,359



**ST.
BERNARD
PARISH**

College; Southern University; Tulane University; UNO; Xavier University

Public Libraries⁵ 2

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- ⁶ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. Population Estimates. 1998. keywords: parish name <http://www.census.gov/datamap/www/22.html>
- ⁷ U.S. Bureau of the Census. 1998. keywords: people, poverty, small area income and poverty estimates <http://www.census.gov>
- ⁸ U.S. Department of Commerce, Economics and Statistics Administration. 1999. keywords: economics and statistical administration <http://www.doc.gov>



Region 1

Jefferson
Orleans
Plaquemines
St. Bernard

Region 2

Ascension
East Baton Rouge
East Feliciana
Iberville
Pointe Coupee
West Baton Rouge
West Feliciana

Region 3

Assumption
Lafourche
St. Charles
St. James
St. John
St. Mary
Terrebonne

Region 4

Acadia
Evangeline
Iberia
Lafayette
St. Landry
St. Martin
Vermilion

Region 5

Allen
Beauregard
Calcasieu
Cameron
Jefferson Davis

Region 6

Avoyelles
Catahoula
Concordia
Grant
LaSalle
Rapides
Vernon

Winn

Region 7

Bienville
Bossier
Caddo
Claiborne
DeSoto
Natchitoches
Red River
Sabine
Webster

Region 8

Caldwell
East Carroll
Franklin
Jackson
Lincoln
Madison
Morehouse
Ouachita
Richland
Tensas
Union
West Carroll

Region 9

Livingston
St. Helena
St. Tammany
Tangipahoa
Washington